

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

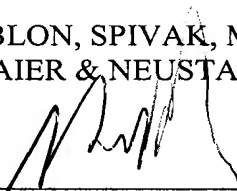
Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 17 and 19-23 had been finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Morin. Applicants wish to thank Examiners Szewczyk and Lopez for the courtesy of an interview on October 15, 2009 at which time the application was discussed. In particular, Applicants explained that the claims recite that the glass sheets are continuously supported by the female former until at least the commencement of a pressing step in which a peripheral region of superposed glass sheets are pressed between the male former and the female former. In contrast, it was explained that lines 52-57 of col. 6, and lines 1-2 of col. 7 of Morin clearly disclose that the glass sheet is disengaged from the “female former” 4 in the condition of Fig. 3, which occurs before the pressing between the male former and the female former in Fig. 4. Thus the glass sheet is not continuously supported by the female former until at least the commencement of the pressing step. In view of this discussion, it was agreed that the claims, as further clarified as in the present amendment, define over this prior art.

Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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